

Listing of the Claims:

Claim 1 (Original): A device for notching a book block spine formed with compressed signatures, the book block passing by the device along a conveying path for a perfect binder, the device comprising:

a notching tool that rotates around a pivot, positioned approximately perpendicularly to the book block spine, the notching tool comprising:

a carrier, defining a circular cutting plane; and

at least two cutting teeth attached to and projecting from the front of the carrier, wherein the cutting teeth are positioned on opposite sides of the carrier relative to the pivot and are oriented at an acute angle β to the circular cutting plane, the teeth cutting into the book block spine to produce arc-shaped notches.

Claim 2 (Original): The device according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the cutting teeth is positioned so as to point radially inward to a center of the carrier.

Claim 3 (Original): The device according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the cutting teeth is positioned so as to point radially outward from the center of the carrier.

Claim 4 (Withdrawn): The device according to claim 1, wherein the carrier for the notching tool is driven around a pivot that is arranged perpendicularly to the conveying path.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The A book conveying and notching device according to claim 1 for notching a book block spine formed with compressed signatures, the device comprising:

a transporter for passing the book block spine along a conveying path for a perfect binder; and

a notching tool that rotates around a pivot, positioned approximately perpendicularly to the book block spine as it passes along the conveying path, the notching tool comprising:

a carrier, defining a circular cutting plane; and at least two cutting teeth attached to and projecting from the front of the carrier, wherein the cutting teeth are positioned on opposite sides of the carrier relative to the pivot and are oriented at an acute angle β to the circular cutting plane, the teeth cutting into the book block spine to produce arc-shaped notches wherein the carrier for the notching tool is driven around a pivot that is arranged at an angle to the conveying path.

Claim 6 (Original): The device according to claim 1, wherein the carrier comprises recesses inside which the cutting teeth are mounted.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn): The device according to claim 1, wherein the carrier has a truncated cone shape and the cutting teeth are attached along a surface line of the truncated cone.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn): The device according to claim 1, wherein the cutting teeth are attached to the carrier such that the teeth project with different lengths.

Claim 9 (Original): The device according to claim 1, wherein the carrier is disc-shaped.